



— State of —  
**North Dakota**  
*Office of the Governor*

**John Hoeven**  
*Governor*

PROCLAMATION  
**BOBCAT COMPANY, CELEBRATING 50 YEARS**  
1958 - 2008

**WHEREAS**, Bobcat Company — of the great state of North Dakota — is the world leader in the engineering, manufacturing, marketing and distribution of compact equipment, and throughout 2008, is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the skid-steer loader and the birth of the compact equipment industry; and


**WHEREAS**, in 1958, Gwinner, North Dakota-based Melroe Manufacturing bought the rights to an innovative three-wheeled loader built by Cyril and Louis Keller; and, this machine, known at the time as the Melroe self-propelled loader, was the predecessor to what became the Bobcat<sup>®</sup> skid-steer loader, and ultimately what began the compact equipment industry; and

**WHEREAS**, the Melroe family — Clifford, Irving, Lester and Roger Melroe, along with their brother-in-law, Eugene Dahl — helped turn their manufacturing company and the Bobcat brand into an icon that is celebrated five decades later by hundreds of thousands of individuals worldwide who are living a better working life because of their dedication and innovation; and

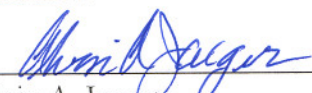
**WHEREAS**, that three-wheeled invention and the brilliant marketing and production innovations behind it have spawned a machine, an industry and many other product lines that have led to successful and enjoyable careers for thousands of North Dakotans; and

**WHEREAS**, all North Dakotans are encouraged to recognize the Melroe family, the Dahl family, the Keller family and Bobcat Company for their contributions to the industrial equipment trade and to our great state of North Dakota, and for exemplifying the state's entrepreneurial spirit and unique culture of vision and ingenuity.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby recognize Bobcat Company as it celebrates its 50th anniversary on this day, August 16, 2008, and officially congratulate all the individuals who have played a part in this great company's success.

  
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John Hoeven  
Governor

ATTEST:

  
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Alvin A. Jaeger  
Secretary of State